

MASSACHUSETTS FISHING & HUNTING



2019



ATTENTION HUNTERS!

The 2019 Guide to Fishing & Hunting contains errors. Black bear and other hunting seasons are incorrect in the printed version of the Guide. The season dates below are correct. You can also find accurate season dates online at mass.gov/masswildlife.

Highlighted text = corrected dates

HUNTING SEASONS

		OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ANNUAL LIMIT
BLACK BEAR					
Black Bear	Zones 1–14	First Season	Sept. 3 – Sept. 21	See full regulations for more information.	1
		Second Season	Nov. 4 – Nov. 23		
		Shotgun Season	Dec. 2 – Dec. 14		
		(restrictions apply*)			

*Hunters must wear 500 square inches of hunter orange on their head, chest and back. Rifles and handguns prohibited.

UPLAND GAME BIRDS*					
Crow	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – April 10	—	—	—
		July 1 – April 10, 2020			
Pheasant	Zones 1–14	Oct. 19 – Nov. 30	2	4	6
	Youth Hunt	See page 47.			
Quail	Zones 11–14	Oct. 19 – Nov. 30	4	8	20
Ruffed Grouse	Zones 1–14	Oct. 19 – Nov. 30	3	6	15
Wild Turkey	Spring: Zones 1–13	April 29 – May 25	See full regulations for more information.		
	Fall: Zones 1–13	Oct. 21 – Nov. 2			
	Youth Hunt: Zones 1–13	April 27 (see box below)			

* Upland game bird hunting is closed during the shotgun deer season.

DEER					
Deer	Youth Deer Hunt	Sept. 28	See full regulations for more information.	1 antlered deer OR 1 antlerless deer in Zone specified in permit during season	
	Paraplegic Hunt	Oct. 31 – Nov. 2			
	Archery	Zones 1–9: Oct. 21 – Nov. 30	See full regulations for more information.	2 antlered deer + antlerless deer by permit	
		Zones 10–14: Oct. 7 – Nov. 30			
	Shotgun	Dec. 2 – Dec. 14			
	Primitive Firearms	Dec. 16 – Dec. 31			

RABBITS AND SQUIRREL					
Cottontail Rabbit	Zones 1–12	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Oct. 19 – Feb. 29, 2020	5	10	—
	Zones 13 and 14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Nov. 15 – Feb. 29, 2020	5	10	—
Snowshoe Hare	Zones 1–4	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Oct. 19 – Feb. 29, 2020	2	4	—
	Zones 5–12	Jan. 1 – Feb. 5, Oct. 19 – Feb. 5, 2020	2	4	—
	Zones 13 and 14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 5, Nov. 15 – Feb. 5, 2020	2	4	—
Gray Squirrel	Zones 1–9	Sept. 9 – Jan. 2, 2020	5	10	—
	Zones 10–14	Oct. 19 – Jan. 2, 2020	5	10	—

Cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare, and gray squirrel hunting seasons are closed during the shotgun deer season.

FURBEARERS					
Bobcat	Zones 1–8	Jan. 1 – Mar. 8, Dec. 20 – Mar. 7, 2020	—	—	—
Coyote	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Mar. 8, Oct. 19 – Mar. 7, 2020	—	—	—
Fox (red or gray)	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Nov. 1 – Feb. 29, 2020	—	—	—
Opossum	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31, Oct. 1 – Jan. 31, 2020	—	—	—
Raccoon	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31, Oct. 1 – Jan. 31, 2020	3	See full regulations for more information.	—

All furbearer hunting seasons are closed during the shotgun deer season except for coyotes.

FURBEARER TRAPPING

Species	OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)
Beaver ¹	Jan. 1 – April 15, Nov. 1 – April 15, 2020
Bobcat ^{1,2} , Coyote ¹ , Fox ¹ , Weasel	Nov. 1 – Nov. 30
Fisher ¹	Nov. 1 – Nov. 22
Mink ¹ , River Otter ¹	Nov. 1 – Dec. 15
Muskrat, Opossum, Raccoon, Skunk	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Nov. 1 – Feb. 29, 2020

1 – Pelt checking/reporting required; see full regulations for more information.

2 – Bobcats may only be trapped or salvaged in zones 1–8

NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY

TO REPORT VIOLATIONS
(800) 632-8075

www.mass.gov/ole